Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 07274 180917Z ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 IO-13 L-03 PC-01 AID-05 /064 W

-----022683 180919Z /15

P 180907Z AUG 78 FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2957

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 7274

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINS, KS

SUBJECT: PROTESTANT YOUTH DEMONSTRATE IN CHONJU

- 1. RUMORS HAVE REACHED SEOUL THAT FROM 200 TO 500 YOUNG PEOPLE ATTENDING A RELIGIOUS TRAINING PROGRAM IN CHONJU ORGANIZED BY THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DEMONSTRATED ON AUGUST 17. REPORTEDLY, THEY TRIED TO MARCH FROM THE SITE OF THEIR TRAINING COURSE TO PUBLICIZE THEIR CONDEMNATION OF THE APARTMENT SCANDAL AND THE SCANDAL INVOLVING FORMER DRP ASSEMBLYMAN SONG NAK-HYON. THE DEMONSTRATORS REPORTEDLY CLASHED WITH POLICE WHO BLOCKED THEIR MARCH AND RETURNED TO A CHURCH WHERE THEY CONTINUED THEIR PROTEST INDOORS.
- 2. AS OF AUGUST 18, KNCC HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION HAD LITTLE HARD INFORMATION ON REPORTS. COMMISSION COULD CONFIRM THAT DEMONSTRATION HAD TAKEN PLACE AND THAT THERE HAD BEEN A CLASH WITH POLICE. COMMISSION HAD HEARD THAT POLICE HAD DETAINED 99 OF THE YOUTHS INVOLVED AND THAT SOME DEMONSTRATORS MAY HAVE BEEN INJURED IN THE CLASH. HOWEVER, COMMISSION HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY FIGURES OF DETAINEES OR INJURED INDEPENDENTLY AS YET.
- 3. EMBASSY CHECKING OTHER SOURCES FOR INFORMATION ON THIS INCIDENT AND WILL KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED. CONFIDENTIAL

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GLEYSTEEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS, YOUTH GROUPS

Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SEOUL07274
Document Source: ID: 02

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780337-1268

Format: TEL

From: SEOUL

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780848/aaaabnvn.tel

Line Count: 56 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: c65ae360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 24 may 2005 Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1693389 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PROTESTANT YOUTH DEMONSTRATE IN CHONJU

TAGS: SHUM, PINS, KS

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c65ae360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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